

I am a lifelong resident of Newington, Connecticut. I grew up reading the Hartford Courant. I'm one of those people who read the paper front to back. Today, I'm a digital subscriber and still read through the entire paper, although I skip through most of the sports section.

I depend on the reporters of the Hartford Courant to help tell me what's going on at the legislature, around the state, the country and the world. The work that its reporters have done to cover the coronavirus pandemic with reduced resources is so appreciated.

It is sad to see the paper become in some ways, a shadow of its former self as Alden Global Capital has enacted cost-saving measures. I have watched many of the reporters move to other outlets. I appreciate those who have stayed and continued to do their important work.

Local newspapers really matter - they help hold local elected officials accountable. I'm grateful to my State Senator, Matt Lesser, for co-sponsoring this bill. The Courant is older than this country. It is the oldest continuously published newspaper.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony

Kathy Flaherty
Newington, CT